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Human Papillomavirus vaccination drive lags in B'luru, with just 4.4% of GBA's target population covered

PAGE 2

GOING GRATE

Gratings with wide gaps on Gandhi Bazar are getting choked with garbage besides posing danger to walkers, cyclists

PAGE 4

Precariousness of pedestrians' situation exposed as traffic police issue 68,000 challans over parking and riding on footpaths in 2026 till March; infrastructure mismatch, policy gaps to blame, say civic experts

PEDESTRIANS ARE WALKING A TIGHTROPE IN BUSTLING CITY

Exponential vehicle growth has outpaced parking facilities

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Rampant footpath encroachment continues to be an issue in Bengaluru, posing a danger to pedestrians. Data from Bengaluru Traffic Police shows that in just the first three months of this year, 68,000 violations of parking and riding on footpaths have been recorded.

Out of these, nearly 33,000 challans for these offences were issued in March, 15,400 challans were issued in February, and 19,300 in January.

City-based civic experts and pedestrian rights activists say footpaths in the city are being taken over by parked vehicles, mainly two-wheelers, due to a lack of designated parking spaces. This is due to unchecked vehicle registrations and inadequate parking infrastructure in bustling markets, and in and around malls, commercial buildings, restaurants, and pubs.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 >>

"Demand for parking spaces in the city has far exceeded the supply. The number of two-wheelers in the city is high, but there are not enough parking spaces — especially at places like Metro stations or commercial streets

— Arun Pai, coordinator, Project Walkaluru

Big ask, tall task

Easing height curbs could unlock 78% more buildable space in Bengaluru's growth belt

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

Did you know that a minor relaxation in building height restrictions around Bengaluru's airports could potentially free up nearly 78% more area for efficient urban development in the city's outer zones?

The State government has pointed this out in a recent communication to the Centre, highlighting how current enforcement of aviation-related norms is limiting the city's ability to grow vertically where it matters most.

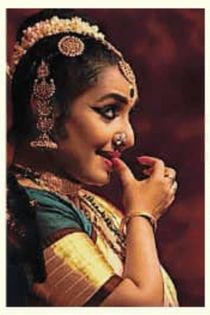
There are four airports in the city including Kempegowda international airport, HAL Airport, Yelahanka air base and Jakkur aerodrome. Officials said a relaxation of height restrictions around airports could open up area for optimal development within the 15–20 km radius.

In a letter to Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, Additional Chief Secretary

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 >>

THINGS TO DO

01 Flow of emotions



Rasanubhava is a classical dance festival that celebrates the journey from Rasa (emotion) to Bhava (expression), bringing together extraordinary artists and the timeless traditions of Indian performing arts on one stage. **Where: Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Malleshwaram; When: April 25, 5 pm**

02 Picture perfect

Youth Photographic Society presents YPS International Salon 2026 with an exhibition of award-winning images on April 25 and 26 from 10.30 am to 6 pm and an award ceremony on April 26 at 11 am.
Where: Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath

03 Stories served

Atta Galatta is presenting Divine Delicacies, a unique experience where samples of prasadams from various temples will be served along with the stories of places of worship and the perceived food preferences of the divine. **Where: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar; When: April 26, 12.30 pm**

04 Pop goes the quiz

SOCIAL will host a music-themed trivia night centered on Michael Jackson and retro pop, featuring quiz rounds where participants guess songs, recall lyrics, and answer pop culture questions, with a mix of popular hits and lesser-known tracks.
Where: Indiranagar SOCIAL; When: April 26, 8 pm

05 Humour in life

Phoenix Mall of Asia is set to host Maheep Singh for a stand-up comedy performance. Known for his under stated delivery, Singh brings a style of humour that finds laughter in everyday observations and lived experiences. **Where: FAN Park, Phoenix Mall of Asia; When: April 25, 6.45 pm**

Bengaluru trails behind in HPV vaccination rollout

With just 4.4% of target population vaccinated so far, Bengaluru ranks among lowest in state in terms of coverage, outperformed by several districts such as Kalaburagi, Yadgir, Koppal & others

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesofindia.com
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The Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination drive within the limits of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has recorded a slow start, with just 4.4 per cent coverage of its target population, even as several other districts in Karnataka have reported significantly better progress.

According to data from the health and family welfare department, as of April 18, GBA has vaccinated 5,186 beneficiaries out of a target of 1,18,339 adolescents. While 86,005 vaccine doses have been allocated, only 6 per cent of the stock has been utilised, pointing to low turnout and limited session productivity. The average number of beneficiaries per session stands at just four, among the lowest in the state. In contrast, districts such as Kalaburagi have achieved 68.3 per cent of their target, followed by Yadgir (37.7 per cent), Koppal (36.9 per cent), and Chamarajanagar (31.2 per cent) all significantly outperforming Bengaluru despite having fewer resources and smaller populations.

Even mid-performing districts like Mysuru (18.4 per cent), Belagavi (18 per cent), and Tumakuru (19.7 per cent) have recorded higher coverage than GBA. Statewide, the vaccination drive has achieved 22.1 per cent coverage, further highlighting the gap between Bengaluru and the rest of Karnataka.

HPV vaccine protects against infections caused by the Human Papillomavirus, a leading cause of cervical cancer (File photo)

Officials note that schools are closed and staff diverted due to ongoing census work, which has delayed vaccination process, while Bengaluru's large, mobile population complicates tracking beneficiaries compared to smaller districts

A senior health official from GBA, however, attributed the slow progress to the ongoing census. "The target population is girls above the age of 14. Currently, many schools are closed for holidays. A significant portion of the workforce is currently diverted to the ongoing GBA census. Many of our field staff are engaged in census-related duties, which has impacted the pace of the vaccination drive. Once this phase is completed, we expect the campaign to accelerate," the official said.

Low performing districts (in terms of lowest % against vaccines allocated)
Bengaluru (BBMP limits) – **6%**
Bagalkote – **20.4%**
Uttara Kannada – **22.2%**
Davengere – **22.6%**
Belagavi – **24.6%**
Mysuru – **25.1%**

The official added that Bengaluru's large, highly mobile population makes it harder to track and mobilise beneficiaries, unlike smaller districts where school-based outreach is more streamlined. Despite the current low numbers, GBA officials expressed optimism about scaling up the drive. "Once schools reopen and regular sessions resume, coverage will improve. We are confident of catching up," the official said.

Health dept urges preparedness for extreme heat

In response to rising temperatures across the state, the Commissionerate of Health and Family Welfare Services has issued a circular outlining urgent measures to tackle extreme heat and heat wave conditions. The advisory, dated April 24, 2026, directs all district health officials to prepare for heat-related illnesses, including heat stroke. Hospitals have been instructed to establish dedicated Heat Stroke Management Rooms equipped with essential supplies such as fans, ice packs, thermometers, and emergency medicines.

To strengthen response systems against rising temperatures, health facilities have been directed to report heat-related illness (HRI) cases on a regular basis. ORS (Oral Rehydration Solution) corners are to be established in public places and healthcare centres as a preventive measure against dehydration. The department has also mandated awareness campaigns,

designed to educate the public on matters of heat safety, symptoms of heat stroke, and practical steps that can be taken to minimise risk. Special focus is being given to vulnerable groups, including outdoor workers, children, and the elderly. Officials have been asked to ensure preparedness from April 1 to May 31, 2026, with coordinated efforts across districts. **— BMB**

Power demand surges by 15%, set to hit record high

As soaring temperatures grip the state, electricity demand has jumped by 15 per cent compared to last year, touching 17,347 MW and projected to reach an all-time high of 19,000 MW by the end of April. In a crucial move to prevent summer power cuts, the energy department has activated an 'electricity banking' strategy, sourcing power from northern states to bridge the gap. The sharp rise in power consumption comes amid an intense summer, with increased use of air conditioners, coolers and fans across households and commercial spaces. The demand spike has been further amplified by a surge in agricultural activity and an unexpected shift towards electric cooking due to LPG shortages.

Official data shows a steady rise in peak summer demand over the years. From 14,766 MW in 2022, consumption rose to 15,100 MW in 2023, climbed to 17,000 MW in 2024 and reached 17,220 MW in 2025. As of April 8 this year, demand has already touched 17,347 MW, with projections indicating it could breach the 19,000 MW mark within weeks. An energy department official said, "One of the biggest contributors to this surge is the agriculture sector. The state has around 38 lakh pump sets, which alone account for nearly 40 per cent of total electricity consumption. Industrial usage stands at about 20 per cent, while the rest is shared by domestic and commercial sectors." With good rainfall last year leading to expanded cultivation, farmers are increasingly relying on pump sets for irrigation. The government has mandated seven hours of daily power supply for agriculture, split between four hours during the day and three hours at night. As a result, electricity usage by pump sets has risen. **— BMB**

Online liquor sales on the cards as Karnataka eyes excise reforms

The state government, which has already proposed a first-of-its-kind tax system based on alcohol content, is now moving a step further by considering online sale of liquor. This proposal is part of the Draft Reforms Report 2026 released on the basis of recommendations by a resource mobilisation committee led by retired IAS officer KP Krishnan. The report suggests replacing the existing slab-based taxation with an Alcohol by Volume (ABV)-based system. It states that both ABV taxation and regulated online sales could boost revenue while addressing social responsibility concerns, including reducing alcohol addiction. The broader aim is to overhaul the excise sector. The report proposes controlled home delivery of liquor through licensed retail channels, while flagging risks such as underage access, delivery verification challenges, and the role of unlicensed intermediaries. It also highlights that alcohol-related social costs in the state are estimated at nearly 2 per cent of GSDP, around Rs 51,000 crore.

The report points out that the current system imposes lower taxes on cheaper, high-alcohol products, contributing to greater social harm, and recommends phased implementation of reforms over three years to avoid revenue shocks. It also suggests earmarking a portion of excise revenue for de-addiction centres and road safety programmes. About 11 per cent of the state's population consumes alcohol, lower than the national average of 14.6 per cent.

Meanwhile, concerns over illegal liquor sales beyond permitted hours have been raised by Rajajinagar MLA S Suresh Kumar, who has urged strict enforcement. **— BMB**

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Grate job gone wrong at Gandhi Bazar: Citizens mind these gaps

Garbage dumping through drain gratings continues unchecked, leading to choking of drainage system and raising concerns about preparedness ahead of monsoon

(1) One of the gratings on Gandhi Bazar; (2) A grating is covered with plywood sheet on Gandhi Bazar; (3) Pipe let into the gratings allegedly for letting dish water into the drain

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Gandhi Bazar has been in the news for the wrong reasons over the past few years, with residents and social activists repeatedly urging authorities to rectify faulty road and drainage design, but with little response.

The drains along the road are covered with gratings intended to facilitate water runoff during the monsoon and prevent flooding during heavy rainfall. Several such drains run along Gandhi Bazar, and they are fitted with metal gratings to ensure smooth flow of rainwater.

However, the design and condition of these gratings have raised serious concerns among pedestrians.

"I have seen some eateries letting out water from the sink into the drain through the gully gratings. Water from the sink and food leftovers will can clog the area

– Guruprasad RK, Basavanagudi Heritage Residents' Welfare Association

Gratings with wide gaps pose a danger to unsuspecting walkers and cyclists, especially in busy commercial areas like Gandhi Bazar.

In many locations, the drains are either filled with garbage or misused by roadside eateries that discharge dirty water directly into them. In some cases, the gratings are covered

with plywood sheets or cardboard, defeating their purpose.

Drains that are blocked with waste or covered improperly fail to function during the monsoon, increasing the risk of waterlogging and sanitation issues in the area.

"I have seen some eateries letting water from the sink into the drain through the gully gratings. Letting sink water and food leftovers will pollute the environment. The entire road will stink if the water and leftover food get stagnated in the drain. Despite complaining to the authorities, nothing has been done to stop roadside eateries letting dish water into the drain. I hope the authorities will prevent roadside eateries from letting waste water from kitchens into the drain," said Basavanagudi Heritage Residents' Welfare Association Secretary Guruprasad RK.

Expressing concern over unscientific grating design, pedestrian Shankar Rao said, "If a mobile phone or a key is dropped into the drain through gratings with wide gaps, it will be tough to recover as the drain is more than three to four feet deep. It is not easy for anyone to retrieve such items. I hope authorities will rectify this by replacing the existing gratings."

Another pedestrian, Prasad K, highlighted the issue of garbage dumping through the gratings. "Choking drains with all types of waste will cause problems during the monsoon. I want authorities to take measures to keep drains free from garbage before the onset of monsoon," he said.

Initiative makes sure cleanliness is everybody's responsibility

Residents and civic authorities collaborate as last-mile partners, combining daily sweeping efforts with structured waste collection support and enforcement against illegal dumping

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesofindia.com
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In a shift from conventional civic clean-up drives, a citizen-led initiative on Silver County Road is demonstrating how individual accountability can reshape public spaces. Launched in April 2026, CleanFront–CleanIndia is built on the idea that residents and shop owners taking ownership of the space directly outside their properties can collectively eliminate garbage black spots.

The initiative, ideated by Deepti Saxena, a resident of SNN Etternia, focuses on what she calls the "Frontage Strategy", encouraging people to maintain the stretch from their property boundary up to the edge of the road. What was once a neglected "no-man's land" is now being reimagined as an extension of personal responsibility.

Explaining how the initiative sustains momentum, Saxena said, "Sustainability is built into the weekly ritual. Every Friday at 8 pm, we hold strategic meetings online to track progress and cel-

Chronic garbage black spots disappear with consistent frontage ownership

ebrate micro-wins. It's an open meeting. Anyone can join who wants to learn about the initiative. By framing a clean frontage as a 'Business Card', we appeal to the economic interests of shop owners; cleaner entrances lead to higher footfall. We move away from one-time drives toward a permanent habit of individual accountability. For a shop owner, a clean frontage isn't just civic sense; it's a brand upgrade that increases footfall. For residents, it's about property pride and neighborhood value."

The impact, residents say, has been visible and immediate. "Since our launch drive on April 4th, the broken window theory has been reversed. By eliminating the dusty gap between boundaries and the road, we removed the visual cue for illegal dumping. Chronic black spots have vanished where frontage ownership has been taken, and more shops now maintain entrances right up to the asphalt," she noted.

On-ground efforts are complemented by coordination with civic authorities, including the GBA. "We don't work in a vacuum. Our foundation is built on synergy with veteran residents and civic officials like Jagdish Reddy from Kudlu and Madhu from Bellandur, who bring years of experience in GBA coordination and roadway management. We act as last-mile partners: residents handle daily sweeping, while we coordinate with civic bodies to ensure timely waste collection and enforcement against illegal dumping," she added.

Residents said eliminating the no-man's land between gates and the asphalt removed the psychological invitation for littering, reducing complaints as proactive maintenance prevents accumulation. The initiative also emphasises social behaviour over enforcement, noting that cleanliness is contagious: when one shop maintains its frontage in a temple-like manner, neighbouring neglected spaces stand out, creating accountability. "As the street levels up, the 'missing links' feel pressure to match the higher standard of the neighborhood," added Saxena. Over time, this collective shift builds stronger community ownership and ensures long-term cleanliness without relying on policing measures.

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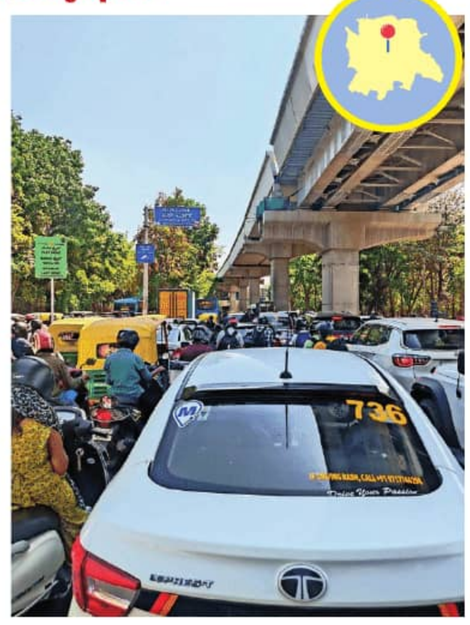

Severe congestion across Sarjapur and Outer Ring Road is pushing daily commuters into prolonged delays and rising stress levels.

Garbage neglect

Vishweshwarapuram

Garbage remains uncleared for nearly half a kilometre near Vishweshwarapuram, with no action from authorities despite it becoming a daily occurrence.

Footpath hazard

Marathahalli

Pedestrian safety concerns rise on Outer Ring Road near Marathahalli due to unwalkable footpaths, open drains, and obstructive banners.

CRIME FILES

Bizman accuses influencer of blackmail

A local businessman has lodged a complaint alleging blackmail in a honey trap case involving an Instagram influencer.

According to Jayanagar police, 31-year-old Karthik Putha, who owns a makeup clinic, filed an FIR on April 13 against influencer Sadhana Shetty. Putha had allegedly initially contacted her for promotional work, and the two later developed a relationship. The police questioned Shetty in this regard and she claimed to be dating the complainant.

It was alleged that Shetty was secretly recording private conversations, photographs and videos without his consent, which she later used to blackmail him in exchange for money. Putha claimed she demanded Rs 1.5 crore, threatening to share the material with his wife if he refused.

He alleged that he was coerced into paying nearly Rs 10 lakh in cash and online transfers, along with valuables including an iPhone and gold ornaments, after being threatened with the release of private material. He further claimed that some of this content was sent to his wife in Hyderabad, leading to domestic conflict.

During questioning, the influencer denied recording private content for extortion, while the complainant alleged that copies may have been made and shared. Police are verifying the financial transactions as both parties have presented conflicting claims.

Investigators are also examining the statement of the complainant's wife regarding receipt of the material. A case has been registered under Sections 66 and 67 of the Information Technology Act, along with Section 308(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). **–BMB**

Probe on into KCET religious row

The Madiwala police have registered a case against officials of Krupanidhi College following a complaint filed on April 24.

According to the complaint, the son of the complainant, a KCET candidate, was asked to remove his Janivara (sacred thread) during the entry check for the Physics examination on April 23, allegedly hurting his religious sentiments.

Police said three staff members responsible for examination checking have been questioned, and further investigation is underway. **–BMB**

Theft case solved, silver articles worth Rs 5.5 lakh recovered

The Kodigehalli police have made progress in a theft case reported last year, recovering 2 kg of silver worth Rs 5.5 lakh.

According to police records, a Sahakara Nagar resident had filed an FIR on November 23, 2025, stating that his family had gone to their hometown and had appointed a security guard to watch over their house. The guard returned the next morning to find the gate and door open. Investigations revealed that the accused had cut through a window grill to enter the house, stealing 3 kg of silver articles and 250 grams of gold ornaments.

One suspect was arrested on December 4, leading to the recovery of 250 grams of gold. During interrogation, he revealed the involvement of two associates, who were later traced to a case in Nashik and brought to Bengaluru on a body warrant.

Further questioning led police to recover 2 kg of silver from a person in Srirampura. The accused were subsequently sent back to Nashik Jail on April 20. **–BMB**

Massive fire breaks out near Rampura

A massive fire broke out near Rampura on April 23, sending thick plumes of black smoke visible up to 10 km and triggering panic among residents.

The blaze has been traced to a plastic recycling godown located behind Prestige Augusta Golf Village near Kada Agrahara Rampura Road. Fire and emergency services rushed to the spot, contained the flames, and evacuated residents as a precaution.

No major casualties have been reported. However, the dense smoke engulfed surrounding areas, causing visibility issues and health discomfort. Authorities are investigating the exact cause of the fire. **–BMB**

Man assaulted over political feud

A Youth Empowerment Party leader, identified as Shahbaz, was allegedly attacked by leader Queen Khan at his residence on April 24.

As per reports, Queen Khan was recently let go from the party over alleged anti-party activities. She, along with a group of men, reportedly stormed into the youth leader's house and assaulted him.

Reports also state that the accused had issued threats aimed at Shahbaz before the attack took place. A video of the incident has been floating on social media, which has further intensified the matter.

A complaint in this regard has been lodged at the Suddaguntepalya Police Station and officials have initiated an investigation. The incident has reportedly stemmed from internal party tension. **–BMB**

Man steals jewellery from wedding party

The Sampigehalli police have arrested a suspect and recovered 42 grams of gold worth Rs 5.5 lakh in connection with a theft reported in February.

According to police, a resident of TC Palya Post had filed a complaint on February 8, stating that his seven-year-old daughter's gold necklace and bangles, valued at Rs 11 lakh, were stolen during a wedding at a Kalyana Mantapa on Thanisandra Main Road. The accused allegedly diverted the child's attention before taking the ornaments.

Acting on credible information, police apprehended a suspect near Vijayanagar in Nandini Layout. During interrogation, he revealed that the stolen ornaments had been pledged to a jeweller in Gokula Layout and another gold company in Rajajinagar.

Following the recovery, the accused was produced before court and remanded to judicial custody on April 21. **–BMB**

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Alleged norm violations cloud Shankarapuram building project

Case reflects tension between development and regulation, with civic compliance, infrastructure safety, and accountability emerging as key concerns in urban construction practices

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Violation of norms while constructing buildings has become common in the city, raising concerns about enforcement and accountability among civic authorities responsible for monitoring development activities.

It is the responsibility of the respective City Corporation engineers to inspect construction sites and ensure that buildings comply with prescribed building bye-laws and approved plans at every stage.

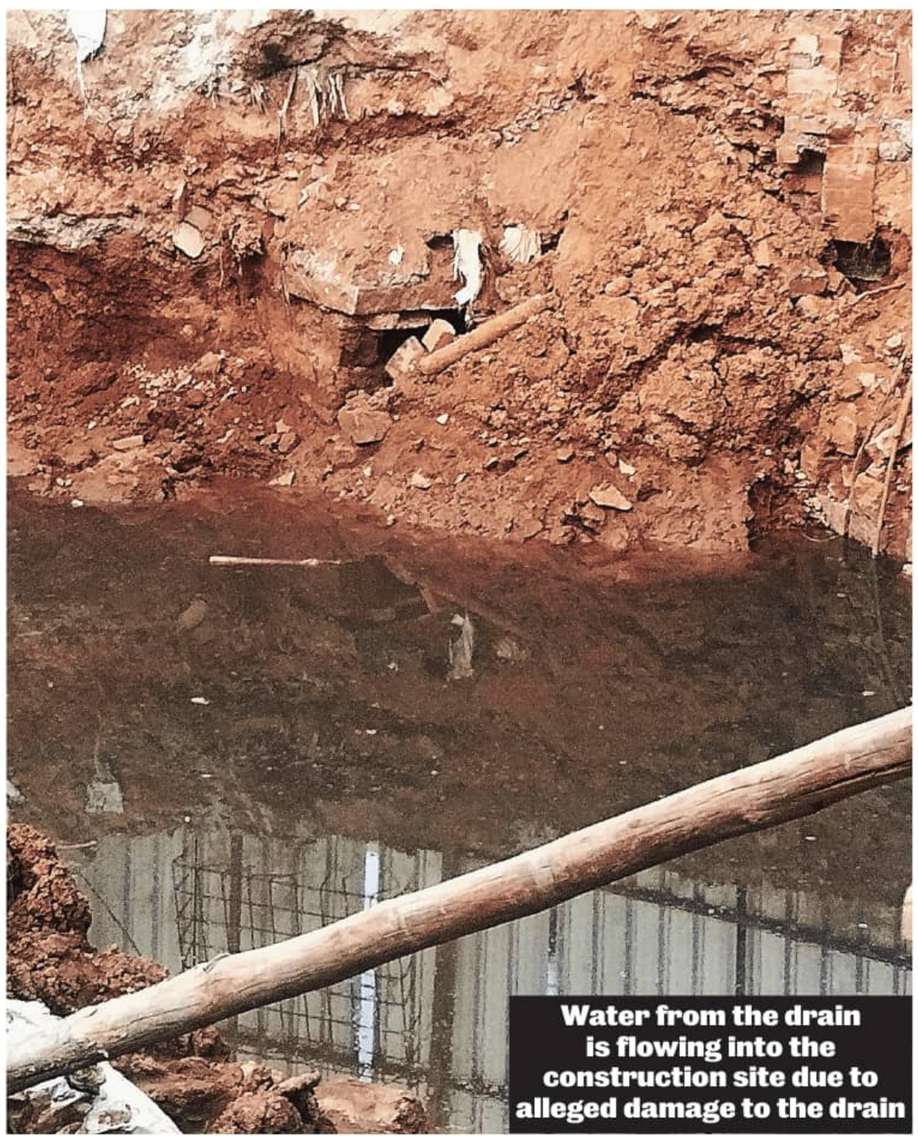
The latest incident involves construction of a building allegedly in violation of norms on Ranga Rao Road, Shankarapuram, in Kempegowda Nagar Sub-Division of Bengaluru Central City Corporation.

According to reports, construction began in February, and it was noticed that concrete pillars were erected by damaging and blocking a nearby drain, raising concerns about public infrastructure.

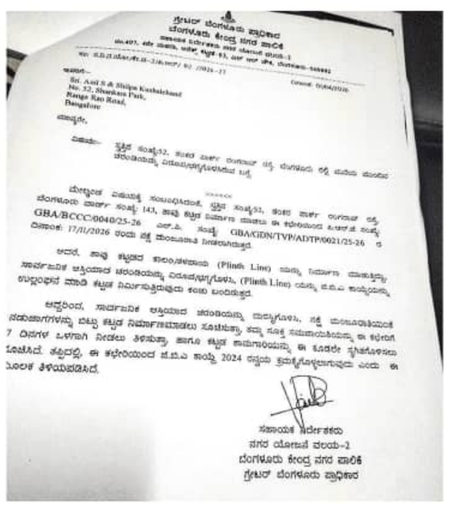
Shankarapuram Police registered a non-cognizable report (NCR) against Shilpa Kushal Chand and Anil based on a complaint lodged by Anil Kumar, a social thinker and social worker, on March 17, 2026.

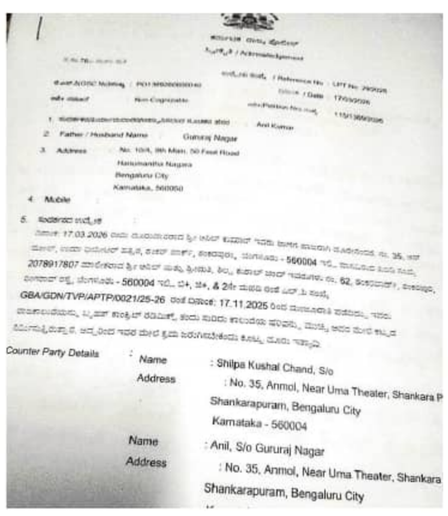
In his complaint, Anil Kumar stated that the construction of the building was being carried out by blocking the drain and potentially causing further civic issues.

According to reports, construction began in February, and it was noticed that concrete pillars were erected by damaging and blocking a nearby drain, raising concerns about public infrastructure



Water from the drain is flowing into the construction site due to alleged damage to the drain





The Assistant Executive Engineer of Kempegowda Nagar Sub-Division issued a notice on March 25, 2026, stating that pillars had been constructed by blocking the drain.

"You are directed to repair the drain that you encroached and damaged immediately. You are directed to produce all documents related to the building plan. If you fail, we will initiate action against you under the GBA Act 2024," the notice read.

On April 1, the Assistant Director (Town Planning-2) issued another notice stating that construction at the plinth level was damaging public property, specifically the drain, and violated provisions of the GBA Act.

"You are directed to repair the damaged drain, follow setback rules, and submit a reply within seven days. You are directed to stop construction work immediately. If you fail, we will take suitable action under the GBA Act 2024," the notice stated.

However, on April 7, Anil and Shilpa Kushalchand wrote to the Assistant Director stating that they had not violated any norms during construction.

"There was a 50-year-old building at the same spot. We demolished the old structure and are constructing a new building on the same spot. We did not damage the drain. We request you inspect the spot. If there is any damage, we will repair it," the letter read. Whether authorities will inspect the site to prevent damage, avoid monsoon flooding, and identify water accumulation remains to be seen.

(Left) Notice issued by Bengaluru Central City Corporation Planning Department Assistant Director on April 1, 2026; NCR registered at Shankarapuram Police Station on March 17, 2026

HIGH COURT

Ration scrutiny: State's view sought

The High Court has called upon the State government to clarify its position on a petition challenging the compulsory use of facial recognition technology in distributing Take-Home Rations under the Poshan 2.0 initiative.

The petition has been filed by the Karnataka Rajya Anganawadi Noukarara Sangha, representing anganwadi workers and helpers across the State. It contests directions issued by the Department of Women and Child Development mandating the Facial Recognition System for delivering rations to beneficiaries.

When the matter came before Justice Sachin Magadum, counsel for the petitioners argued that the insistence on facial recognition has disrupted implementation, especially in rural areas with unreliable internet connectivity. The lawyer stated the system has made distribution ineffective and urged continuation of physical verification methods. **BMB**

Interim relief in false marriage vow case

The High Court has temporarily halted criminal proceedings against a 22-year-old man, son of a BJP leader from Puttur, accused of sexually assaulting his classmate on false assurance of marriage. The interim relief is conditional, directing him to pay Rs 75,000 per month to the woman and their child until his petition is decided.

The case arises from allegations that the accused entered into a physical relationship with the complainant by promising marriage, leading to pregnancy and birth of a child. He has approached the High Court seeking to quash the FIR.

During the hearing, defence argued that the relationship was consensual. The court noted this but observed that the matter could not be viewed in isolation, especially considering the child and circumstances faced by the woman.

Considering her financial and social vulnerability, the court granted temporary stay while ensuring support for the woman and child, emphasising that payments must be made without default. **BMB**

So many highways, so few amenities: 'Facilities critical for road safety'

Karnataka's rapid emergence as a major logistics and transport hub has brought focus on the need for better facilities along its extensive highway network. While thousands of kilometres of National Highways now connect key cities such as Bengaluru, Mangaluru, Hubballi, Ballari and Mysuru, the development of basic infrastructure for commuters—particularly Wayside Amenities (WSA) — remains limited.

The Government of India, through the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and its logistics arm National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML), has outlined plans to build Modern Wayside Amenities (MWA) at intervals of 40 to 60 km along major highways. These projects are to be implemented under public-private partnership models, including Design-Build-Finance-Operate-Transfer (DBFOT), allowing private players to develop and operate facilities over a fixed concession period.

According to Radhakrishna Holla, president of the Karnataka State Travel Operators Association, the lack of progress remains a serious concern. "Karnataka has world-class highways in many stretches today, but the absence of proper Wayside Amenities is a major gap in the system. Despite clear policies and identification of

locations, implementation has not moved at the required pace," he said.

Holla said several high-traffic corridors—including the Bengaluru–Hyderabad, Bengaluru–Mysuru, Bengaluru–Mangaluru and coastal routes—have been earmarked for such facilities on paper. However, travellers and commercial drivers still depend on fuel stations, roadside eateries and unorganised parking areas. "Most drivers are forced to rely on petrol bunks or hotels for basic needs like toilets, rest and food. This is neither adequate nor safe," he said.

Under the national framework, Wayside Amenities are expected to include parking zones, clean toilets, drinking water, dormitories, fuel stations, EV charging points, food courts, first aid services and minor vehicle repair support. Holla said the absence of organised rest areas contributes directly to driver fatigue and unsafe parking practices. "When drivers don't have designated rest points, they stop along the roadside, increasing accident risks. Proper facilities are not just about comfort—they are critical for road safety," he noted.

He also compared the situation with neighbouring states, where integrated rest stops are becoming more common. "States like Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh are moving ahead in creating structured highway amenities. Karnataka cannot afford to lag," he said. **BMB**

Virat, Devdutt partnership tears into Gujarat bowling

Bengaluru makes challenging total look easy

Sai Sudharsan anchored Gujarat Titans' (GT) innings with an impressive 100 off 58 balls and helped visitors put up a competitive total of 205/3 against Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) in the 34th match of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on Friday. But RCB was totally up for the challenge as Virat Kohli and Devdutt Padikkal were in full form. The relatively early loss of Jacob Bethell didn't matter as the duo proceeded to give Gujarat's bowlers at tough time.

1. Royal Challengers Bengaluru's Devdutt Padikkal and Virat Kohli run between the wickets
2. Gujarat Titans' Sai Sudharsan celebrates his century during the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 match between Gujarat Titans and Royal Challengers Bengaluru at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on Friday

Gujarat's innings

GT	RCB
205/3 (20)	206/5 (18.5)

For Gujarat, it was Sudharsan all the way, though he started a bit shaky when Bhuvneshwar Kumar got the ball to move away, creating a thick outside edge that went past the short third for four. On the other end, Josh Hazlewood made things tough early on. He hit Sudharsan on the pads and repeatedly beat his outside edge, with Sudharsan often late on his shots. However, as the initial movement faded, Sudharsan began to settle, steering one deliberately past the short third and punching another through the covers to find his rhythm.

The breakthrough came in the fifth over when Sudharsan hit the first six of the innings. After scooping Hazlewood past the keeper for four, he cut the seamer over cover-point for a maximum and followed it up by slicing another boundary behind point, racing to 41 off 27 balls while Shubman Gill had faced just three deliveries. The Gujarat Titans finished the Power-play strongly at 57/0, with Sudharsan in control.

He kept attacking, facing Rasikh Salam with successive boundaries. Gill contributed with a boundary in the final over of the Power-play, but the focus remained firmly on Sudharsan. Even when Krunal Pandya tried to tighten things briefly with variations in pace and angle, Sudharsan smartly rotated the strike to prevent any slowdown.

The left-hander brought up his half-century in style, reaching 50 off just 33 balls with a scoop for six off Romario Shepherd, followed by a sharp boundary through covers. The over became the most expensive of the innings as Gill joined in with a classic pull. Sudharsan then delivered one of the highlights of the innings by uppercutting Krunal for a six over deep third—an audacious shot—before slog-sweeping another maximum to mark his 2000th IPL run. He became the fastest to reach this milestone in 47 innings, surpassing Chris Gayle (48), with Shaun Marsh (52), Ruturaj Gaikwad (57), and KL Rahul (60) following behind.

For RCB, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Josh Hazlewood, and Suyash Sharma picked up a wicket each.

Today's battle

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Kanakapura Road emerges as property hotspot

PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Kanakapura Road in South Bengaluru is witnessing a surge in demand for premium residential plots, driven by rapid infrastructure development and its inclusion in the state government's Greater Bengaluru plan. The corridor has emerged as a preferred destination for property investment, with many buyers viewing real estate in the area as both profitable and prestigious. Residential plots suited to middle-class budgets are widely available, attracting investors from across the city.

"The presence of reputed educational institutions, religious centres and modern amenities has further strengthened its appeal as a residential locality with a growing cosmopolitan character," KK Vijay, a realtor, said.

Improved connectivity and major infrastructure projects are also boosting the region's growth. "The proposed Satellite Ring Road project is expected to connect Kanakapura Road with Anekal and Ramanagara, easing traffic and enhancing accessibility once completed. The area is already well connected through a four-lane road network and metro connectivity," Vijay added.

Nearby localities such as Harohalli, Konanakunte, Kaggalipura, Talaghattapura, Anjanapura and Electronic City add to its residential potential. With new malls, corporate offices and entertainment centres emerging, property values continue to rise, making it a sought-after destination. **-BMB**

Bengaluru Drives Record Realty Inflows in Q1 2026

Bengaluru emerged as a key contributor to India's record-breaking real estate investment inflows in the first quarter of 2026. The city, along with Mumbai and Delhi-NCR, accounted for nearly 65 per cent of total capital deployment during the period.

According to CBRE South Asia, India's real estate sector attracted USD 5.1 billion in investments between January and March 2026, marking a sharp 72 per cent year-on-year rise from USD 2.9 billion in the same period last year. The surge the highest ever recorded in a single quarter was largely fuelled by domestic investors, who accounted for about 96 per cent of total inflows.

Developers led with a 42 per cent share, followed closely by Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) at around 40 per cent. Notably, REIT investments crossed USD 2 billion, registering a multi-fold increase over the previous quarter and signalling a growing preference for institutionalised, income-generating assets.

The report highlighted that investment momentum remained concentrated in built-up office assets and land acquisitions, which together made up over 90 per cent of equity inflows. A significant portion flowed into mixed-use and residential developments.

Quarter-on-quarter, inflows rose by about 53 per cent from USD 3.3 billion in Q4 2025, reflecting sustained investor confidence despite global economic uncertainties. Foreign inflows, led by investors from Singapore and Canada, contributed the bulk of overseas capital, while new platforms worth around USD 234 million strengthened growth prospects. **-BMB**

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City records highest office rent growth

Bengaluru has emerged as the top performer in the Asia-Pacific office market, recording the highest year-on-year growth in prime office rents at 14 percent in the first quarter of 2026, according to a Knight Frank report.

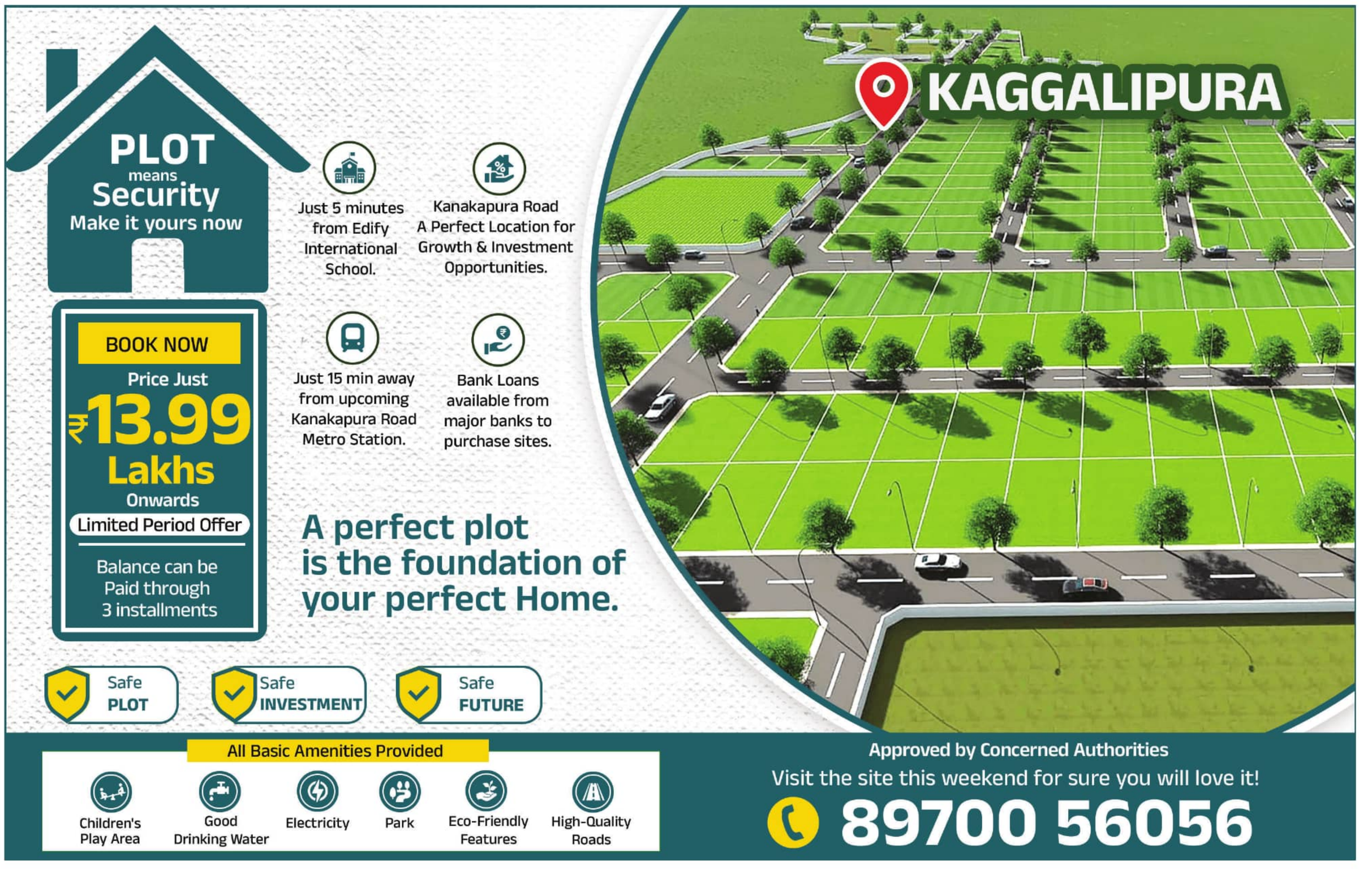
The strong performance underlines India's resilience in the regional office sector, with Mumbai and Delhi-NCR also posting steady rental growth of 7.5 percent and 8.2 percent, respectively.

Across the Asia-Pacific region, 18 of 24 tracked cities reported rising rents, signalling continued recovery momentum despite global uncertainties.

In terms of occupancy costs, Delhi-NCR ranked as the sixth most expensive prime office market in the region at USD 72.33 per square foot annually, followed by Mumbai in eighth position, while Bengaluru stood much lower at 19th.

Leasing activity across India's top office markets remained robust, with 18.8 million square feet transacted during the quarter, reflecting a 3 percent increase compared to last year. Mumbai recorded a standout performance with a record 5.6 million square feet of leasing, while demand in Bengaluru and Delhi-NCR remained strong and more evenly distributed than in previous years.

Global Capability Centres continued to drive demand, with domestic companies increasing contribting to market activity. **-BMB**



Time to reclaim pedestrian-friendly spaces

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Rampant footpath parking is due to an infrastructure mismatch and a lack of a policy.

"Bengaluru lacks a robust parking policy. Demand for parking spaces in the city has far exceeded the supply. The number of two-wheelers in the city is high, but there are not enough parking spaces - especially at places like Metro stations, commercial streets, etc. We need more organised paid parking spaces. Underused spaces such as under flyovers could be converted to designated two-wheeler parking spots," said Arun Pai, coordinator, Project Walkaluru for better footpaths. Experts say more projects on the lines of space under the Bellandur Flyover, which has been transformed into a public parking lot, should be taken up to increase parking infrastructure in the city.

Notably, less than a month ago, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivkumar had announced a comprehensive footpath policy aimed at reclaiming pedestrian space and improving traffic flow across Bengaluru.

Under the policy, the government is looking to announce a list of roads where street vendors will be prohibited to ensure footpath accessibility to pedestrians. The policy is also expected to look into unauthorised parking on footpaths.

Experts say the city is undergoing exponential vehicle growth that has far outpaced parking infrastructure development and availability.

"The solution lies in enforcing stringent building plan approvals. Moreover, commercial and residential structures must include dedicated on-site parking spaces as a non-negotiable prerequisite.

However, the recent proposal by GBA to increase deviation in building sanctioned plans from 5 percent to 15 percent will only incentivise violations, further choking footpaths and endangering pedestrians. It's time for zero-tolerance enforcement to reclaim pedestrian-friendly spaces in the city," said Vinod Jacob, a city-based urban strategist.

Elephant task force gets a ride

To control human-wildlife conflict in Hassan district, the National Highway Authority of India, under a CSR initiative, has provided 13 two-wheelers and four-wheelers to the district elephant task force.

The vehicles, including one four-wheeler, 2 campers, and 10 two-wheelers, will be used by the task force to inform the public and drive elephants back to forest areas.

At the event held at the Karnataka Forest Department office in Malleswaram, Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar B Khandre flagged off the vehicles.

Vertical growth can help curb haphazard urban sprawl, Centre told

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

(Urban Development) Tushar Giri Nath has flagged how current enforcement of rules is stretching beyond prescribed limits, placing a disproportionately large share of the city's growth zones under rigid vertical caps.

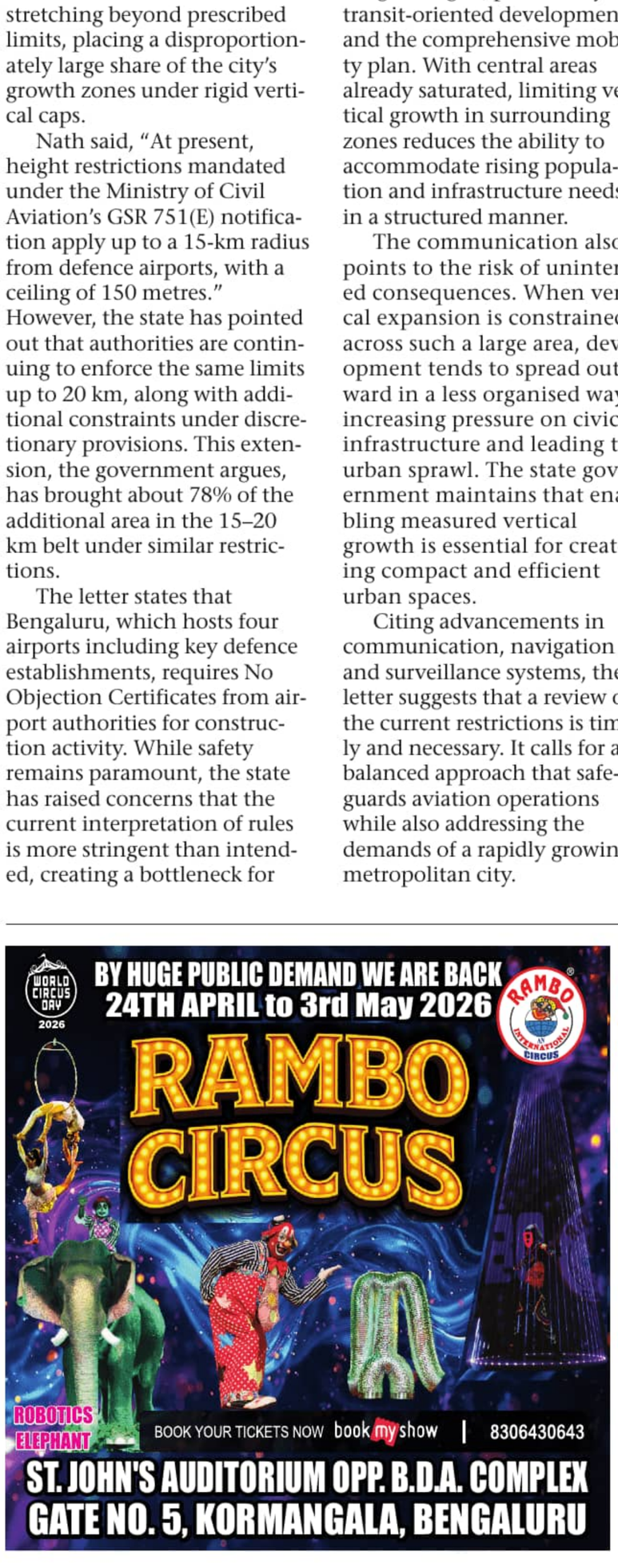
Nath said, "At present, height restrictions mandated under the Ministry of Civil Aviation's GSR 751(E) notification apply up to a 15-km radius from defence airports, with a ceiling of 150 metres." However, the state has pointed out that authorities are continuing to enforce the same limits up to 20 km, along with additional constraints under discretionary provisions. This extension, the government argues, has brought about 78% of the additional area in the 15–20 km belt under similar restrictions.

The letter states that Bengaluru, which hosts four airports including key defence establishments, requires No Objection Certificates from airport authorities for construction activity. While safety remains paramount, the state has raised concerns that the current interpretation of rules is more stringent than intended, creating a bottleneck for planned urban development.

Officials have warned that these restrictions are directly affecting the city's core planning strategies, particularly transit-oriented development and the comprehensive mobility plan. With central areas already saturated, limiting vertical growth in surrounding zones reduces the ability to accommodate rising population and infrastructure needs in a structured manner.

The communication also points to the risk of unintended consequences. When vertical expansion is constrained across such a large area, development tends to spread outward in a less organised way, increasing pressure on civic infrastructure and leading to urban sprawl. The state government maintains that enabling measured vertical growth is essential for creating compact and efficient urban spaces.

Citing advancements in communication, navigation and surveillance systems, the letter suggests that a review of the current restrictions is timely and necessary. It calls for a balanced approach that safeguards aviation operations while also addressing the demands of a rapidly growing metropolitan city.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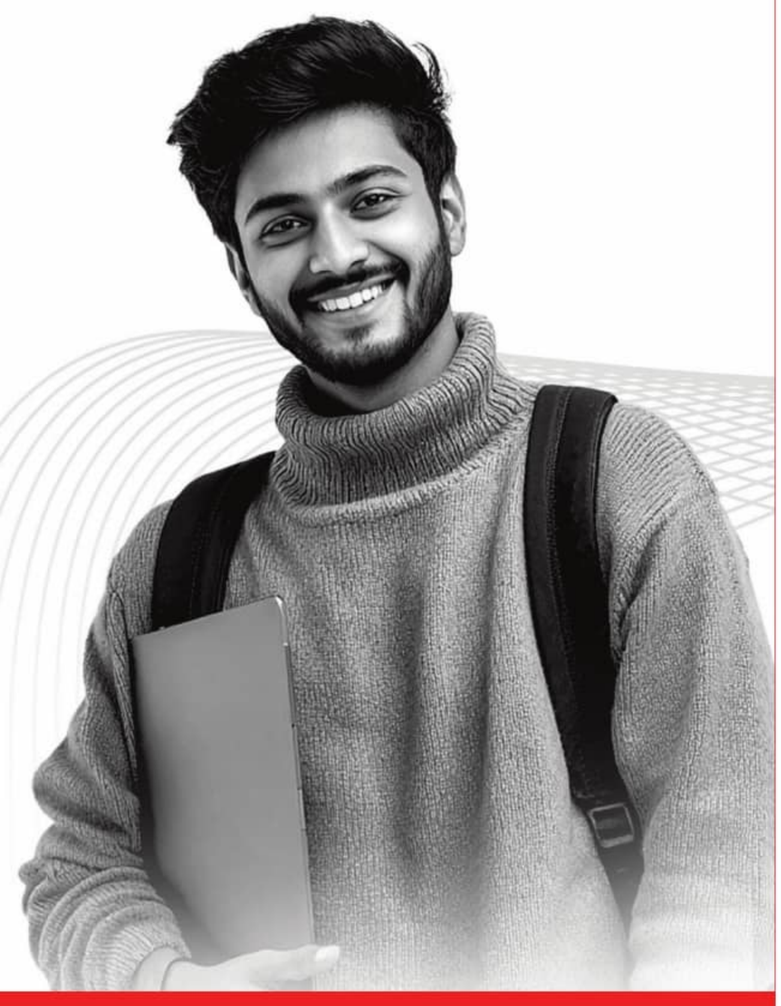

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For some context

Actor Rakul Preet Singh recently addressed the buzz around a statement made by her husband, Jackky Bhagnani, where he referred to their marriage as an "exclusive situationship." The comment quickly went viral, sparking debate online. Sharing a screenshot of the headline, Rakul pointed out that the remark had been taken out of context and presented in a misleading manner.

In a note on social media, Rakul explained how a single line from a much longer conversation was highlighted without its full meaning. "We had a great laugh today about how one line from an hour-long conversation can suddenly become the headline.

Funny... until it's not. Context matters. Nuance matters. Conversation deserves better than being reduced to clickbait. Maybe it's time platforms take a little more responsibility for the narratives they create (sic)," she wrote, urging for more responsible storytelling.

The remark in question came during an interview with a YouTube channel, where Jackky spoke about his relationship with Rakul. Reflecting on their equation, he shared that both of them had experienced life's highs and lows and were not seeking to fill any emotional void through marriage. Elaborating on his perspective, Jackky said, "Rakul and I are married, but we are like in a situationship, which is, of course, we are exclusive to each other, because that's why we are married. But the most important thing is that I can talk to her about anything." **–ETimes**

Seal it with a kiss

Kajol reveals why she broke her no-kissing rule for OTT debut

Kajol has opened up about why she chose to break her longstanding no-kissing policy for her OTT debut in 'The Trial: Pyaar, Kaanoon, Dhokha'. The actor called it a character-driven, professional decision, one she was deeply unsure about until the very last moment.

Kajol has been a leading name in Hindi cinema for three decades. When she made her OTT debut in 2023 with 'The Trial', she not only took on a new platform but also crossed a personal boundary, sharing a kiss with co-star Jisshu Sengupta.

Speaking on Lilly Singh's podcast, when asked about the decision, Kajol explained that the scene was inseparable from her character's journey. In her own words, "It wasn't simply a kiss; it was about what she thought and what she wanted to happen and what didn't happen for her."

The actress added, "What she believed, what she had faith in. What she couldn't have faith in. It was something that was an integral part of the entire screenplay, so I couldn't have cut that out without cutting an integral part of the entire character."

Kajol reveals she was uncomfortable During the same conversation, Kajol admitted the decision wasn't easy. She told Lilly Singh, "I think I was uncomfortable with it. I was very, very uncomfortable with the idea till I was standing on set... I really think it was simply that; it was simply a professional call where I felt that I could make this call today."

In 'The Trial', Kajol played Noyonika Sengupta, a housewife who returns to law after her husband's scandal. The courtroom drama, directed by Suparn Verma, is an Indian adaptation of 'The Good Wife'. **–ETimes**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Producer is the real hero!

Director-cum-actor and lyricist Prem is ready with his latest film, KD - The Devil that is scheduled for release on April 30. The movie's trailer was launched by veteran character artiste HG Dattatreya aka Dattanna at a function on Wednesday.

"The last three months were very difficult for Prem and music director Arjun Janya. I congratulate and appreciate them for withstanding the stress," said Rakshita Prem.

Appreciating Sarja's performance, Prem said the real hero of the movie is producer Venkat K Narayan. "Hats off to Venkat K Narayana for his guts and passion for movies. He supported the entire team for three years. Ramesh Aravind plays a key character in the movie. Sudeep plays an important character in the movie," said Prem.

Dhruva Sarja thanked the director. "I appeal to all moviegoers to spare two hours and twenty minutes to watch KD - The Devil at theaters from April 30," Sarja said.

Teaser launched

Minister for Women and Child Welfare Minister Lakshmi Hebbalkar launched the teaser of Daali Dhananjaya-starrer Anna from Mexico on Thursday. Hebbalkar's brother Channaraj Hattiholi Basavaraj, MLC, and Mudigere MLA Nayana Motamma, and cast and crew of the movie were present on the occasion.

"I am very happy to release the teaser of the movie. The teaser is very good. I joined hands with my brother to support this movie because of its interesting script. My intention is to contribute something for the development of the Kannada film industry. The teaser will make viewers curious about the movie. We launched the shooting after seeking blessings of Goddess Chamundeshwari," said Hebbalkar.

Daali Dhananjaya said he had lunch at Hebbalkar's house in Belagavi during the filming of the movie Badava Rascal. "Laksmi Hebbalkar ma'am told me that her brother is interested in supporting a Kannada movie. Later, I came to know that Channaraj Hattiholi Basavaraj wanted me to make a movie," he said.

Peculiar fantasy

JERAX (KANNADA)
3.0 RATING ★★★★★
- **DIRECTOR** Srinidhi
- **ACTORS** Nagabhushana, Payal Chengappa, Manju Pavagada, Vijaya Prasad, Om Prakash Rao, Aruna Balaraj.
- **Producer:** Daali Dhananjaya

Jerax is a Kannada series scheduled to premiere on ZEE5 from April 24. It deals with the peculiar idea of what happens if a photocopy machine becomes a human-cloning machine. This is the second film of Blink-fame director Srinidhi Blink. Srinidhi has ensured all elements such as comedy, romance, superstition, politics and punchy and funny dialogues in this series.

The series begins with a couple taking their son to meet a priest at a temple because their son is suffering from some behavioural issues. The priest advises them to get a talisman made for their son. They agree to follow the priest's advice but it is not easy for the priest to tie the talisman around the child's neck. At this juncture, the scene shifts to Rayadurga where politicians – Ramanna (Vijaya Prasad) and Deepu (Manju Pavagada) - contest in the local election and try to outsmart each other. Meanwhile, Prakasha (Nagabhushana), who works at a provision store that has a photocopier, is in love with Sooji (Payal Chengappa). At this juncture, Prakasha's uncle (Om Prakash Rao) enters the scene and chides him for being lazy. You have to watch the series to know what happens to Prakasha and his lover Sooji.

As far as the performances of the actors are concerned, Nagabhushana is at his best as a hapless orphan, who has to depend on his irascible uncle for survival. His dialogue delivery and gestures are good. Payal Chengappa, as a smart girl, is convincing. Vijaya Prasad and Manju Pavagada have provided good support. Director-cum-actor Om Prakash Rao's dialogues and gestures provide the much-needed comedy.

It is worth a watch for those who love a thriller with comedy elements. **–Y Maheswara Reddy**

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PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/160824/006973 ▲G+14▼
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SARJAPUR - ATTIBELE ROAD
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Solid waste management tender raises a stink: Plea reaches court

A private contractor has approached the High Court of Karnataka with allegations that two senior State officials demanded illegal gratification in connection with a solid waste management tender in Bengaluru.

The petition, filed by SN Balasubramaniam — proprietor of Nelaanjanaa Enterprises and general secretary of an association representing garbage contractors and lorry owners — claims that bribes ranging from 9% to 15% of the annual bid value were sought to finalise the contract.

According to the plea, the petitioner emerged as the successful bidder for one of the city's Solid Waste Management (SWM) packages after submitting his bid at the end of December 2025. Following technical and financial evaluation, he was declared the winner in early January 2026 and subsequently called for price negotiations, as his quoted amount exceeded the estimated tender value.

The petition further states that rival bidders challenged the award before the appellate authority in the Urban Development Department. However, the authority upheld the tender allocation in early March, clearing the way for finalisation.

Balasubramaniam has alleged that shortly thereafter, he was called for a meeting by IAS officer Karee Gowda, Chief Executive Officer of Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Ltd. During this interaction, the official allegedly referred to certain "formalities" required for approval of the tender. When clarification was sought, it is claimed that these "formalities" were described as payments amounting to a percentage of the bid value — including portions allegedly meant for board members, the Urban Development Department led by Additional Chief Secretary Tushar Girinath, and others within the government.

The petitioner has also alleged that the initial demand of around 15% was later reduced to 9%, accompanied by a warning that the tender could be cancelled if the payment was not made. He claims that the contract was ultimately cancelled on March 25.

Seeking legal intervention, the petitioner has asked the court to direct registration of a First Information Report against the two officials, stating that his earlier complaint to the State Chief Secretary did not result in any action.

Opposing the plea, Advocate General K Shashi Kiran Shetty argued that the petition should not be entertained, asserting that it contains incorrect claims. He told the court that one of the officials named in the allegations was not in Bengaluru on the date the alleged meeting took place and described both officers as "honest." Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum, after briefly hearing the matter, adjourned the proceedings to April 24, granting time for the petitioner to file an affidavit substantiating his claim regarding the meeting. **— BMB**

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APR: 27* MAY: 5, 11*, 12, 18*, 26
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APR: 26 27* MAY: 1, 3*, 7, 13*, 17, 25, 25*
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tender & notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Fortius Resources Private Limited hereby notifies its Member Partners that the association relating to earlier computing equipment– based activities stands concluded, and such computing equipment leasing is being undertaken by a separate entity in strict accordance with applicable arrangements. The Company is transitioning to its core focus on education and leasing, with closure targeted on or before 30 April 2026. In the event of any extension for legal, regulatory, or administrative purposes, applicable benefits shall continue on a pro-rata basis until such time. All existing obligations and entitlements shall be duly addressed and concluded by the Company in alignment with the aforesaid timeline.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Anoop A Peshkar, residing at #387, 1st Main, 1st Phase, Ideal Homes Township, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru 560098, Karnataka, I declare that my mother's name MANGALA ANANT PESHKAR and MANGALA PESHKAR pertain to one and the same vide affidavit dated:18/04/2026 before notary S R Thulasikrishna.

I, AMRUTHA SINGH. N, W/o.K.Loknath Singh, R/a No.56, Thatnahalli Village, Magondhi Post, Bagarpet - 563114, I, have Changed my minor daughter name will be change from PALAK SINGH.L to ADHYA SINGH.L, Vide affidavit, dated 17/04/2026 Sworn before Notary: Thangaraj.S. KGF Kolar

I,SHIVACHIDAMBAR Parande S/o Dattobarao, # B3-C3-403,Provident Park Square,Kanakapura road,Judicial Layout, B'luru 560062 , have changed my name to Shivachidambar Dattoba Rao Parande for all purpose

I, Nisha Rajeshkumar Udani D/o, Rajeshkumar Saubhagyachand Udani R/o 303, Prime Lavender, Panathur Main Road, Kadubeesanahalli, Bangalore 560103 have changed my name to Nisha Abhishek Doshi for all purposes.

I, Shilpa Kadam W/o Anil Srinivasarao, Resident At No.1372, 10th Main, 3rd Cross, Judicial Layout, Gkvk Post, B'luru-560065 Have Changed My Name To Shilpa Anil Srinivasa For All Purposes.

I, Neelesh Patel, s/o Purushottam Ratansi Patel, R/o No 13, 3rd Main 4th Cross Chinnanna Layout Kaval Byrasandra, B'luru-560032 have changed my name to Neelesh Purushottam Patel for all Purposes

I, SHA MOHAMMED S/o. M.J.Shafi R/a #16/2 4th cross, 2nd main road, mysore road, valmiki nagar, Bengaluru-560026 have changed my name to SHAH MOHAMMED vide affidavit dated 23.4.2026 before notary M.Rajendra, Bangalore.

I, Mohammed Yousff Khan S/O, Nayaz Ahmed Khan R/o No 5 Annipura Main Road Sudhamanagara Bangalore 560027 have changed my name to Mohammed Yousuf Khan for all purposes.

I, Shakthi Krishnan Manjunath W/O, N Manjunath R/o Villa No B-40 Sycon Maltri Chikkabanahalli Kannamangala Bangalore 560067 have changed my name to Shakthi Krishnan for all purposes.

I, Gagan Kumar Namala S/O Govindarajulu Namala # Saranam Nilayam, Ward no-20, 3rd Cross , Gandhi Nagar Market Main Rd BLD Bellary-583101 have changed my name to Gagan Kumar Namala Govind Rajulu for all purposes

I Dhruv Chandavarkar S/O, Sachin Jnanesh Chandavarkar R/o C-510 Ashok Heights Apartments, No 11 Srikanteshwara Nagar, Mahalakshmi Layout, Bengaluru - 560096 have changed my name to Dhruv Sachin Chandavarkar.

I, RHEA, D/o MOHAMED ALI JINNAH MOHIDEEN ABDUL KHADER, R/o Building No. 303, Manasa Royal Ashrama Road Hinkal Mysore - 570017. I have changed my name to RHEA MOHAMED ALI JINNAH FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

I, MOHAMED ISAAQ (Old Name) S/o K M Ashfak Ahmed Residing at No. 20/1 Harris Road, Benson Town. J C Nagar Bengaluru 560046 have changed my name to ISAAQ MOHAMMED (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 24/4/2026 Befote Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

I Rajashree Hangal Anand R/o 204 Mathrushree Silver Oak Apt Medahalli Karnashree Lyt Blore-49 Have changed my name to Rajashree Hangal for all purpose

I, N Devika, w/o Aromal Victor, R/o #38 1st Cross Road Giddamma Layout B.Narayanapura Mahadevapura Bengaluru-560016 have changed my name to Devika for all Purposes.

I, Anupama Janardhan Holla, #9, Jalaja, South End Street, Kumar Park East, B'lore - 01 have changed to Anupama Janardhan Vide aff Dt.22/04/2026 sworn before Notary Devraja E. B'lore.

I, Anoop A Peshkar, residing at #387, 1st Main, 1st Phase, Ideal Homes Township, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru 560098, Karnataka, I declare that my wife's name VARALAKSHMI ANOOP PESHKAR and VARALAKSHMI PESHKAR pertain to one and the same vide affidavit dated:18/04/2026 before notary S R Thulasikrishna.

LOST & FOUND

DOCUMENT LOST

I, Vijayananda .B.K, residing at No.16, 11th Cross, 4th Main Road, S.R. Nagar, Bangalore-560027, stating that, i have lost the sale deed (document no. 6398/07-08) of my property between 25.03.2026 and 31.03.2026 in Bangalore. In this regard, i have filed a complaint (L.R.No.2135224/2026) to Bangalore City Police on 01.04.2026. If anyone finds the said document, please contact the above address or mobile number 9035258585

I, Nigar Sulthan H, residing at No. 688, 10th Cross, Pragathipura, near registration office Banashankari 2nd Stage-560070, have lost House Hakku Patra, House allotted No. 720 and SSLC & PUC Marks cards on 03.03.2026 at Banashankari Sub Registrar office. Finders please contact: 7411567741

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MIRRORLIGHTS

Tips to prevent hair damage

Choose right: Use the correct hair range and product, and steer clear of harsh shampoos and alcohol-based products.
Be gentle: Brush and comb your hair gently if your hair is wild and tangles easily. Start detangling at the tips and go upwards rather than starting at the roots.
Pat, don't rub: When towel drying your hair gently scrunch and press your hair between the folds of the towel to squeeze out excess moisture.
Heat styling: If you must blow-dry, use the coolest setting. Direct heat on wet hair will fry your hair and leave you with badly damaged tresses. When ironing, use a thermal protector.
Tight bands: Avoid using supertight barettes, clips and accessories, and over-tight hairstyles on a regular basis. Pulling back your hair tightly results in weaker roots and leads to hairfall. Tight bands can also result in hair breakage from that area, leading to many flyaways.
Sun protection: Sun-protect your hair the way you do your skin. While there's no 'SPF' for hair, you can use hats, scarves, bandannas to avoid prolonged sun exposure. Also use good leave-in products to protect your tresses from dirt, pollution and humidity.
Hands off: Avoid running your fingers through your hair too much to keep frizz at bay.
Cap it: Regular swimming sessions take a toll on hair due to the high chlorine content of the pool water— use a swimming cap and oil your roots before you do your laps. **-Femina**

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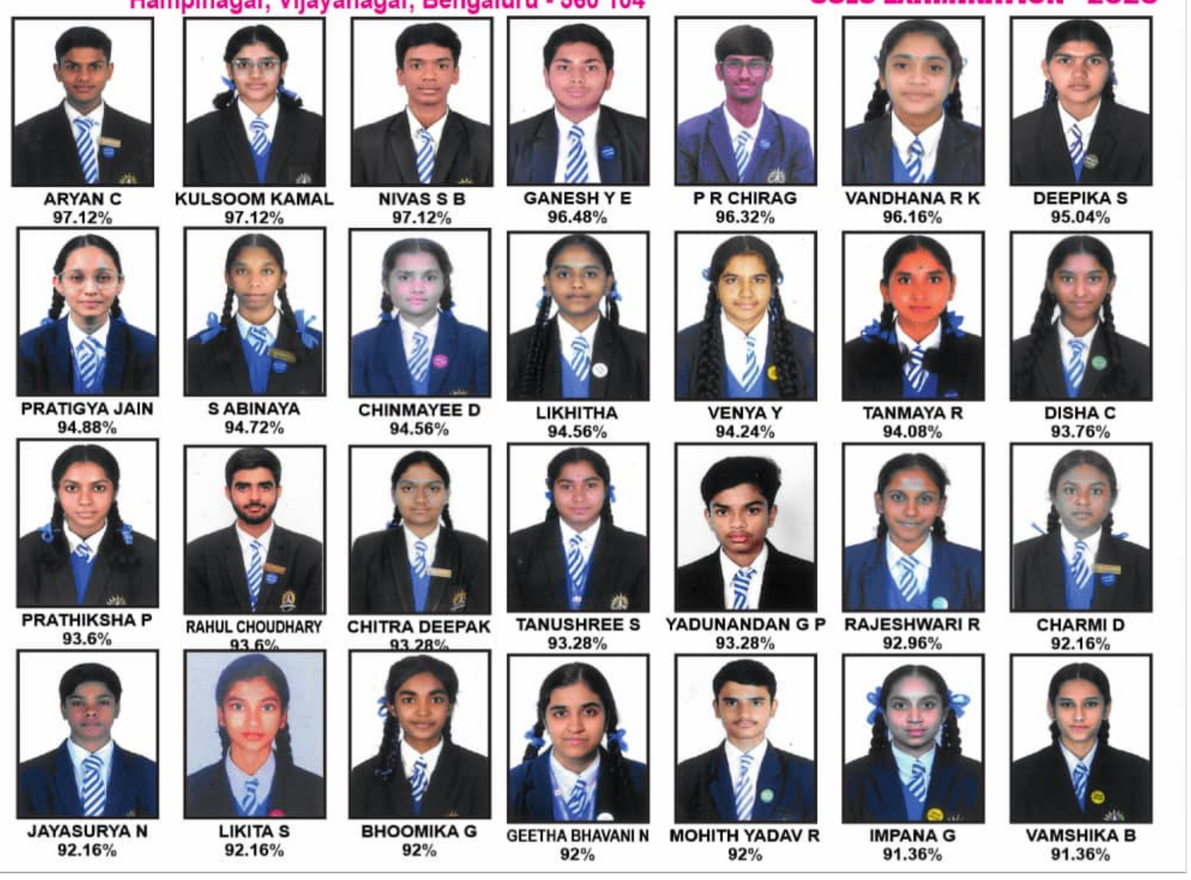

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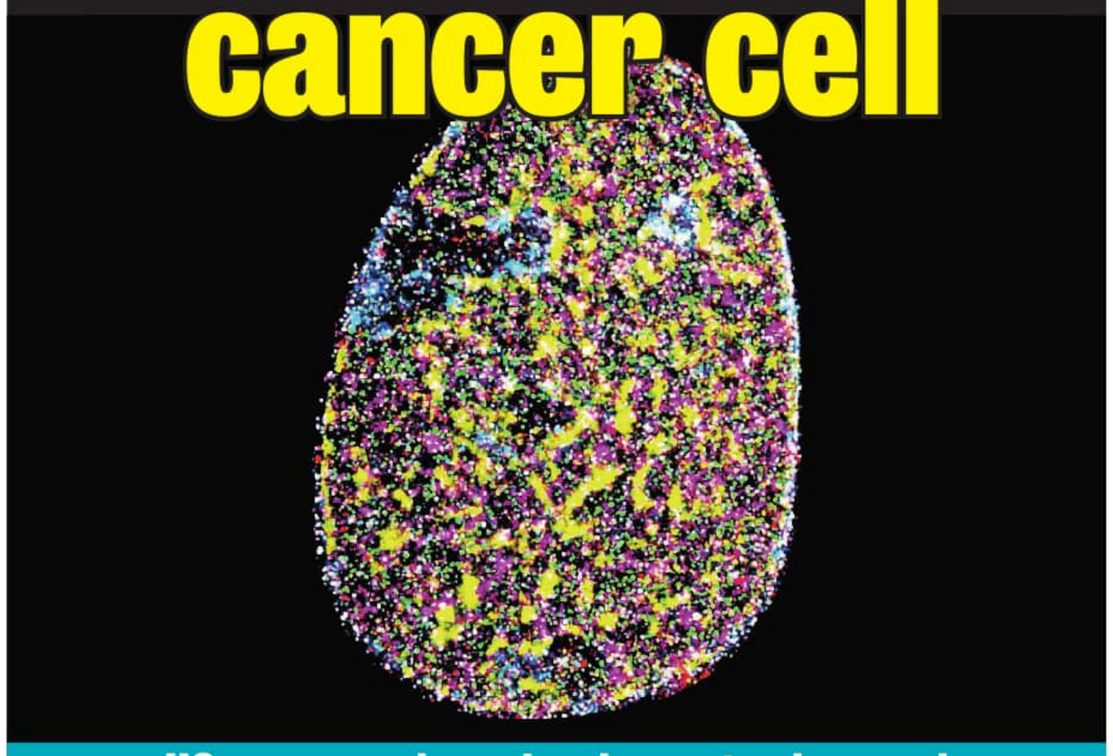
ADVITA J. THUMAR 98.40 (615)
DRUTHI K 97.76 (611)
TANUSHRI KADAKOL 97.60 (610)
ADITHYA P. 97.28 (608)
N. PRUTHVI 94.56 (591)
SIDDARTH JAYAKUMAR 94.40 (590)
SAMEEKSHA K. 93.76 (586)
HITHASHREE S. 92.32 (577)
DEERAJ PREETHAM S. 92.00 (575)
KHUSHI V. 91.52 (572)
ULLAS N. 91.52 (572)
DENNIS V. 90.88 (568)
HARSHITHA M. 90.88 (568)
NAVYA P. 89.60 (560)
DHAMINI S. 89.44 (559)
KISHAN G. 89.44 (559)
BHANUPRIYA M. T. 88.48 (553)
YASHIKA V. 88.48 (553)
CHETHANA B. 88.32 (552)
CHINMAYI M. D. 87.52 (547)
ROOPALI R. 87.52 (547)
KUSHAL B. L. 86.56 (541)
POORVI R. 86.24 (539)
SHARATH S. 85.92 (537)
NAVYASHREE L. 85.60 (535)

Peering into a cancer cell



IISc researchers implement advanced microscopy technique to visualise multiple biomolecules inside nucleus of cancer cell

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Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have implemented an advanced microscopy technique to visualise multiple biomolecules inside the nucleus of a cancer cell simultaneously at incredibly high resolution. The biomolecules they visualised include critical components of the cell's transcription machinery and proteins that provide structural support to the nucleus, providing one of the first detailed maps of nuclear organisation.

"Understanding how protein distributions change in diseased cells could open up new ways to detect illness before symptoms appear. By mapping the precise locations of diverse biomolecules at the nanometer scale, we can begin to uncover how they interact with one another and how these relationships are altered in disease," SAID says Abhinav Banerjee, a BC PhD alumnus, now a postdoctoral researcher at the Janelia Research Campus (HHMI) and co-first author of the study.

Researchers explain that human body is composed of trillions of cells and each cell is an organised meshwork of millions of proteins, nucleic acids, and many other molecules vital for the cell's health.

"Building novel technologies to visualise many biomolecules in individual cells is crucial to push the boundaries of biological research," says Mahipal Ganji, Assistant Professor at the Department of Biochemistry (BC) and corresponding author of the study published in Nature Communications. Conventional imaging techniques, however, allow scientists to visualise only two or three biomolecules in each cell at a time.

> **Fluorescent DNA tags attach to targets inside cell and light up when laser beam is shone on them**

In the study, the researchers turned to a microscopy technique which allows for the visualisation of biomolecules inside cells at incredible detail – far beyond the limits of conventional microscopes. It uses small fluorescent DNA fragments or tags that briefly attach to specific targets inside the cell and light up like tiny, blinking signals when a laser beam is shined on them.

Different cellular components can be labelled with unique DNA tags, which can be tracked to build very sharp images of tiny targets. So far, however, researchers have only been able to tag and observe 2-3 molecules at a time. "Conventional techniques are limited to only seeing three molecular species. Seeing many more would pave the way for detailed biological insights into cellular organisation," says Micky Anand, PhD student at BC and co-first author.

In the current study, the IISc team made several significant improvements to DNA-PAINT. They were able to create tags that could bind to 12 different targets simultaneously – five of these were able to stick to the target molecules faster and for much longer, allowing sharper and clearer images showing details as tiny as 3-5 nanometers in size. Using strongly binding tags reduces the energy of the laser beam required to visualise the biomolecules, leading to reduced damage to the DNA tags as well as cells.

The team was also able to significantly speed up the imaging process. Visualising even one biomolecule would take hours in the initial days of DNA-PAINT; using their modified technique, the team was able to visualise nine different targets in less than four hours.

The new technique also allowed the researchers to observe how the cells reorganise proteins and biomolecules when an important cellular process like transcription is blocked.

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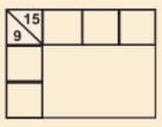
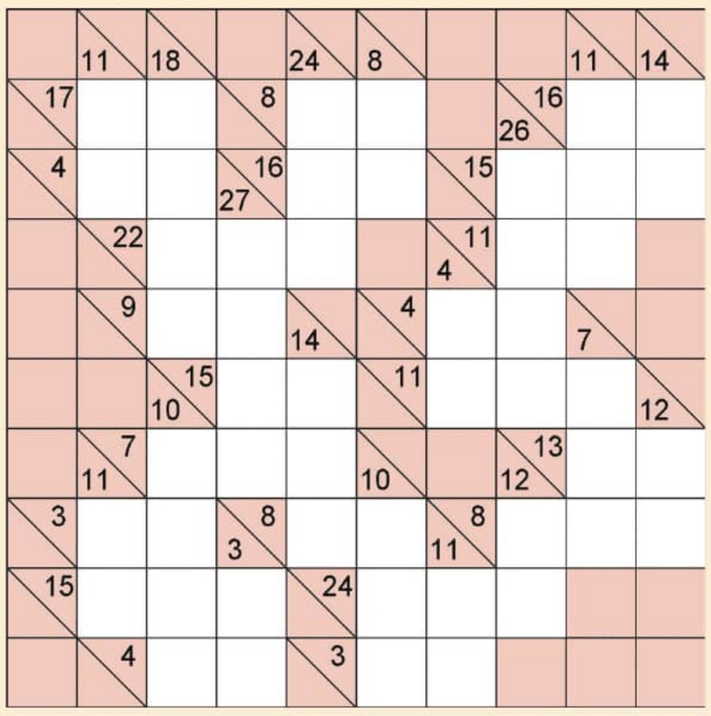
Kakuro

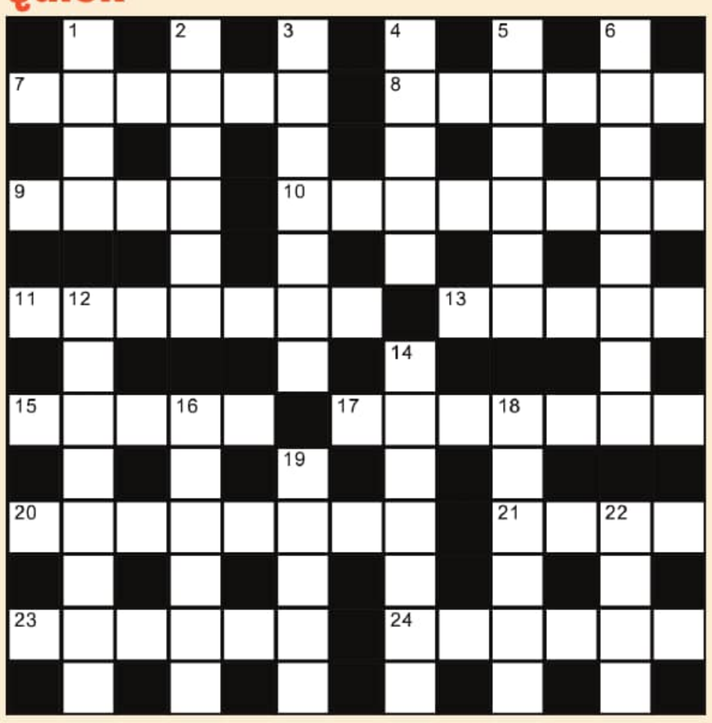
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Piece used in a game (6)
8 Wickedly, awfully; in a contemptible manner (6)
9 Metallic element (4)
10 Bivalve molluscs (8)
11 Conventional fabric for the cricketers? (7)
13 Flight of steps (5)
15 Attach (5)
17 Deepens rivers (7)
20 An instrument for examining the ear (8)
21 A Channel Island (4)
23 Charm; talisman (6)
24 Drips, leaks or secretes (6)

DOWN

1 Asian desert (4)
2 Container for lubricant (3-3)
3 Assisted by pushing from below? (7)
4 ___ Hills: Bangalore's highest point (5)
5 Small village (6)
6 Record's reverse (4,4)
12 Birth to death (8)
14 Raiser of animals (7)
16 Affront (6)
18 Field event (6)
19 Boos or jeers? (5)
22 Regretted (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: N EQUALS Y

ICC AVYVSO LIJK HJ QLKS NVF RICC JLKA I AVYVS.

Linemaro

I know what you shoud be for Halloween...mine

Mindchow

What is important in life is life, and not the result of life

Joke of the day

I would say the world is in terrible shape, but I'm afraid the world would say, 'Look who's talking!'

Loop

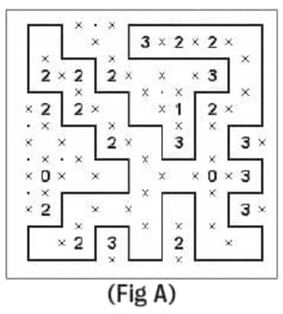
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

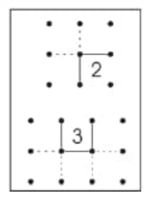
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

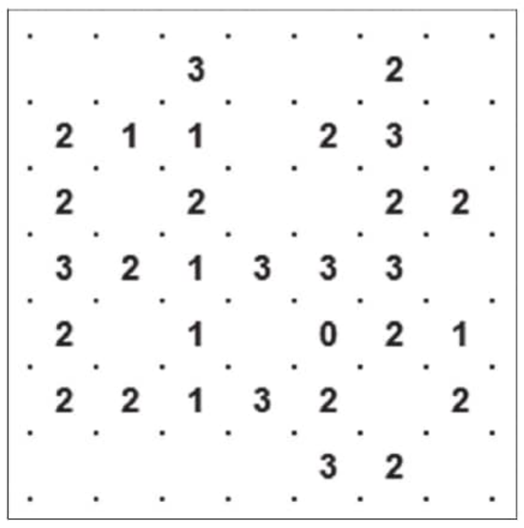
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



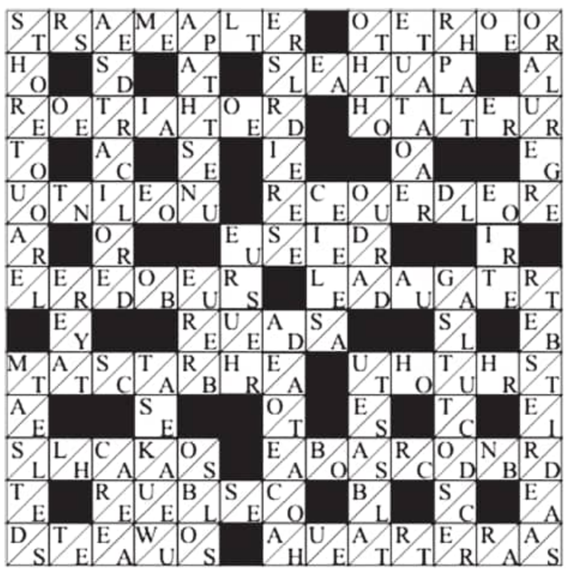
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9			D	

ACROSS

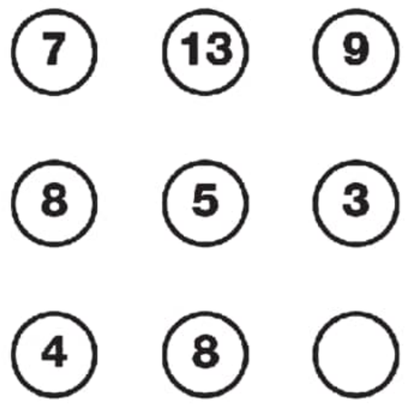
1 Cap as; 6 Am Aga;
7 Neons; 8 Noirs;
9 NYC ad

DOWN

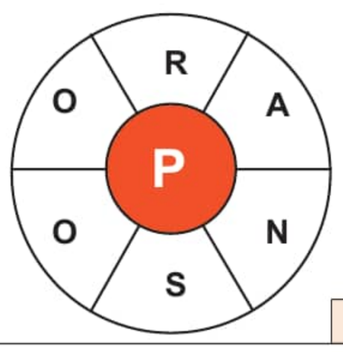
1 In Cap; 2 A Argo;
3 On Can; 4 Named;
5 Says S

Mensapuzzle

Which number goes in the empty circle?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

09 Average; 10 Good; 12 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	3				9			
7	2		6	3				
6							4	
		2		5			6	3
3		5		2		1		9
4	1			9		7		
	5							4
				1	3		5	2
			4				1	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 15

2 8 6 3

Medium = 23

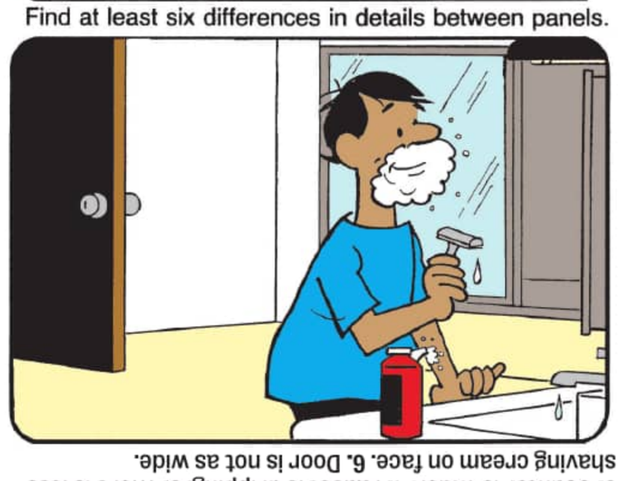
3 4 9 2

Hard = 17

1 4 6 8

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



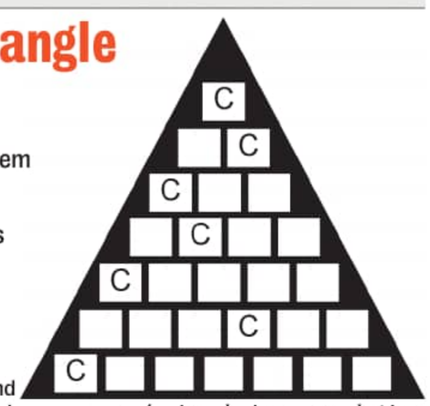
Differences: 1. Can is different. 2. Finger is moved. 3. Counter is wider. 4. Faucet is dripping. 5. There is less shaving cream on face. 6. Door is not as wide.

Riddler

What phrase is represented below? HEA wooden stick VEN HEA wooden stick + sulphur head VEN HEA wooden stick + sulphur head + phosphorus tip VEN

Alpha triangle

1 Vitamin type
2 Account, abbr.
3 Metal container
4 Teenager's problem
5 Free of dirt
6 Slit open
7 Wax lighting rods

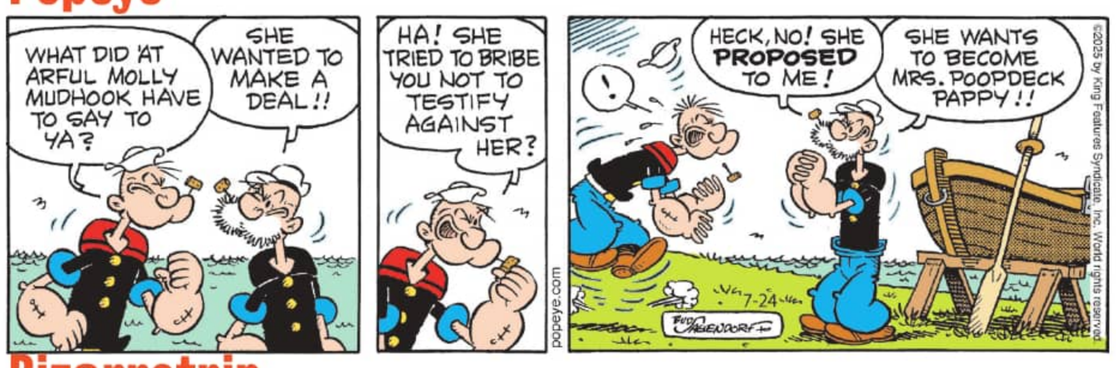


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye


WHAT DID 'AT ARFUL MOLLY MUDHOOK HAVE TO SAY TO YA?
SHE WANTED TO MAKE A DEAL!!
HA! SHE TRIED TO BRIBE YOU NOT TO TESTIFY AGAINST HER?
HECK, NO! SHE PROPOSED TO ME!
SHE WANTS TO BECOME MRS. POOPDECK PAPPY!!
7-24
popeye.com
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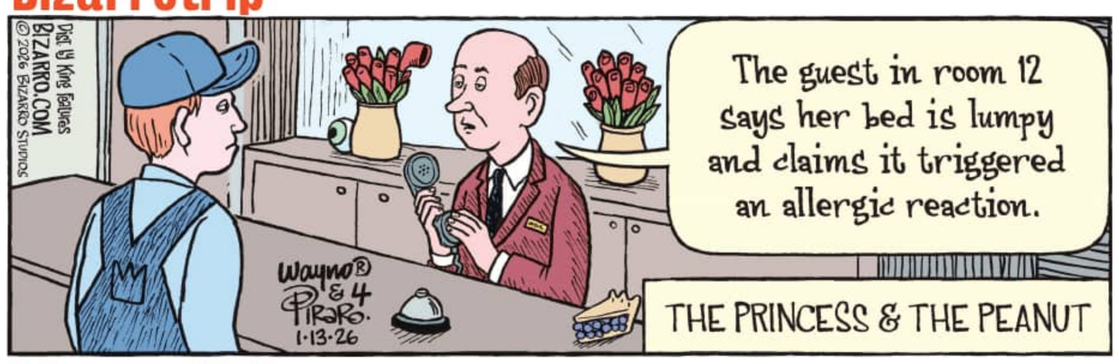
Bizarrotrip


Dist. by King Features
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© 2026 BIZARRO Studios
The guest in room 12 says her bed is lumpy and claims it triggered an allergic reaction.
Wayno & Piraro 1-13-26
THE PRINCESS & THE PEANUT

Diamond Lil

AND NOW BACK TO "HERCULES DOES HIS TAXES"
NOT REAL THRILLING, IS IT?
THAT'S THE SECOND-BIGGEST ABACUS I'VE EVER SEEN
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Hart of the city

CAN YOU LOOK AT THE BUDGET FOR EXTRA-CURRICULARS AND SEE IF THERE'S ANY MONEY FOR TRANSPORTATION AND AN APPLICATION FEE FOR THE THEATRE TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS?
BUDGETS ARE PRINCIPAL WHITMAN'S PURVIEW.
BUT I CAN'T GET A MEETING WITH HIM!
ADDITIONALLY, MOST OF THE MONEY GOES TO THE AWARD-WINNING CLUBS LIKE THE MATHLETES.
THAT'S WHY WE NEED THE MONEY! TO GO TO THE TOURNAMENT TO WIN THE AWARDS!!
SCHOOL BUDGETS ARE ONE BIG CATCH-22, AREN'T THEY?
I DON'T KNOW! WE DON'T READ THAT ONE TILL HIGH SCHOOL.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2026 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

I SAW YOU GO DOWN IN MY REARVIEW MIRROR, GEORGE! ARE YOU OK!?
I'M SITTING ON THE GROUND WITH MY ANKLE SWELLING UP LIKE A SOCCER BALL! DOES THAT LOOK OK TO YOU!?
DAD! ARE YOU OK!?
I'M SITTING ON THE GROUND WITH...!
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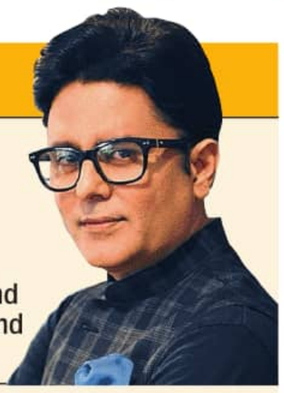
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books
1-13

Mutts

PEEPS, HOW COME YOU DIDN'T TRAVEL SOUTH THIS YEAR?
ARE YOU KIDDIN' ME!?!
HAVE YOU SEEN THE PRICE OF GASOLINE!?!
DISTRIBUTED BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE
MUTTS © PATRICK MCDONNELL
1-13

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

Dr SUNDEEP KOCHAR



If it's your birthday today

Celebrating today opens a year filled with meaningful progress, exciting invitations, and refreshing travel. Travel tied to career growth expands your horizons. Romance feels playful, warm, and supportive. Finances gradually strengthen through patient decisions. Domestic life offers comfort, laughter, and heartfelt conversations. Trust your instincts, follow promising opportunities, and enjoy the friendships, journeys, and surprises arriving across your path.

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Conflicts may arise today, Aries, as others challenge your ideas. Stay focused on your goals and avoid being distracted by opposition.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Unexpected challenges may appear today, Taurus. Rather than worrying, pause, reflect, and calm your mind before deciding your next step.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Your adaptability will be tested today, Gemini. Tasks outside your comfort zone may arise, but accepting these challenges can lead to growth and new opportunities.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Pay close attention to details today, Cancer. Overlooking small matters could create obstacles, so carefully review both personal and professional responsibilities.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Others may feel tense today, Leo, yet understanding their emotions might be difficult. Focus on your own plans rather than analysing their behaviour.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Respect others' boundaries today, Virgo. While your affection is genuine, remember some people need personal space and independence.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Strong emotions may arise today, Libra. Instead of venting frustration toward others, release tension through physical activities like sports or dancing.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Nostalgia may inspire you today, Scorpio. Reconnect with old friends or organize a gathering to revive cherished relationships.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Meeting new people may not appeal to you today, Sagittarius. Politely decline invitations and allow yourself space without frustration or irritation.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Low energy may affect you today, Capricorn. Instead of pushing through exhaustion, allow yourself time to rest and recover.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Assertiveness helps you succeed today, Aquarius. Trust your ideas and pursue them confidently, even if it requires trying new approaches.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Confidence strengthens your perspective today, Pisces. If you've felt lost recently, clarity returns as you realize the answers you sought were always within reach.

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SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
3^½ × 3^½ × 3^½=
3^((3+2+1) / 6) = 3¹ =3

RIDDLER
A Match made in Heaven!
A match (wooden stick + sulphur head + phosphorus tip, which are the components of matches) is being made in HEAVEN

BULL'S EYE
apron, parson, poor, rasp, snap, snoop, soap, SOPRANO, span, spar, spoon, spoor

FAST FIVE

P	A	C	A	S
A	G	A	M	A
N	O	N	E	S
I	R	O	N	S
C	A	N	D	Y

STRIKE OUT

S	T	E	W	S		H	E	A	T	E	R	S		
T		R	E	B	E	C		L		S		E		
S	H	A	K	O		A	B	S	C	O	N	D		
A		S		T		E		C		I				
M	A	C	A	B	R	E		T	O	U	R	S		
E	R	E	B	U	S		L	A	A	G	E	R		
R		R		U	S	E	D			R				
U	N	I	O	N		R	E	O	R	D	E	R		
T		A		E		E		O		E				
R	O	T	A	T	E	D		O	T	T	E	R		
O		S		A		L	E	H	U	A		A		
T	R	A	M	P	L	E		O	T	H	E	R		

QUICK

		G		O		B		O		H		F		
	D	O	M	I	N	O		K		M	E	A	N	L	Y
		B		L		O		M		I				
Z	I	N	C		S	C	A	L	L	O	P	S		
		A		T		R		E		S				
F	L	A	N	N	E	L		S	T	A	I	R		
		I				B		D						
A	F	F	I	X		D	R	E	D	G	E	S		
		E		N		H		E						
O	T	O	S	C	O	P	E		S	A	R	K		
		I		O		D		C		U				
A	M	U	L	E	T		E	X	U	D	E	S		
		E		T		S		R		S		D		

MENSA PUZZLE
2. Starting with the digits to the top and left move in lines of three digits subtracting the centre digit to give the bottom and right figures.

QUOTE UNCODE
All morons hate it when you call them a moron.

SUDOKU

5	3	1	8	4	9	2	7	6
7	2	4	6	3	1	5	9	8
6	8	9	5	7	2	3	4	1
9	7	2	1	5	8	4	6	3
3	6	5	7	2	4	1	8	9
4	1	8	3	9	6	7	2	5
1	5	6	2	8	7	9	3	4
8	4	7	9	1	3	6	5	2
2	9	3	4	6	5	8	1	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE
C, Ac, Can, Acne, Clean, Lanced, Candles.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 + 3 − 2 + 6 = 15
Medium
4 + 9 x 2 − 3 = 23
Hard
6 + 8 − 1 + 4 = 17

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 18, Issue No 017 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/22411 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by Lokesh K.V. at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru - 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon - responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

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Max Power (bhp@rpm)	113 bhp @ 6300 rpm	105 bhp @ 6000 rpm	102 bhp @ 6000 rpm	102 bhp @ 6000 rpm
Manual - 6 Gears	✔	✔	X	X
Brake Override System	✔	X	X	X
Driver Rear View Monitor (DRVM)	✔	X	X	X
Dashcam	✔	X	X	X
Ambient Sounds	✔	X	X	X
Puddle Lamps	✔	X	X	✔
Infotainment Screen	10.25" Touch-screen Display	12.29" Touch-screen Display	9" Touch-screen Display	9" Touch-screen Display
Audio System	8 Speakers, 1 Subwoofer, 2 Tweeters	4 Speakers, 4 Tweeters	4 Clarion Speakers, 2 Tweeters	4 Speakers, 2 Tweeters
Call Reject with SMS	✔	X	X	X
Vehicle Tracking Via App	✔	X	✔	X
Breakdown Assistance Call Button	✔	X	X	X
Over The Air (OTA) Updates	✔	X	X	X
Home-to-Car Connectivity - Alexa	✔	X	X	X
Navigation On Instrument Cluster	✔	X	X	X
Tyre Position Display	✔	X	X	X
Gear Shift Indicator	✔	X	✔	X
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